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NEWS RELEASE

Sept. 27, 2000

Contact: Linda Jesse, Alumni Association, (406) 243-4236.

DALTON RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA AWARD

MISSOULA, Mont. --

Bonnie Pitsch Dalton of **Sunnyvale, Calif.**, will receive a Distinguished Alumni Award at The University of Montana's Homecoming celebration Friday and Saturday, Oct. 6-7.

Dalton is one of six outstanding UM graduates chosen for the awards this year. Awards will be presented at the traditional Singing on the Steps of Main Hall ceremony, which starts at 7 p.m. Friday.

Dalton has been a leader in life sciences programs for 36 years at NASA's Ames Research Center. Currently acting chief of the Life Sciences Division, she manages a \$25 million -- and growing -- annual budget for development and implementation of biological payloads for Spacehab, ferried into space on shuttle flights, and payloads going via shuttle into the International Space Station.

In 1992 Dalton won the NASA Outstanding Leadership Award, and in April of this year she was selected for the NASA-Senior Executive Service Program. She is widely published in leading scientific journals and recognized as an authority on ground facilities, habitats and equipment required to support nonhuman biological specimens.

Dalton is a Montana native and a **Hardin** High School graduate. She holds bachelor's and master's of science degrees in microbiology and public health from UM.

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TB
Hometowns
DAADalton.rl